



T

The Urban District Council of Sandbach



Report

on the

Health and Sanitary Circumstances
of the District

for the year ended

31st December, 1966

Medical Officer of Health

L. RICH, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

9 PARK STREET, CONGLETON. Telephone 3655/6

Chief Public Health Inspector

N. A. ROGERS, M.A.P.H.I.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Sandbach Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report for the year 1966 on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District of Sandbach.

The various activities carried out by the Health Department are given as usual and it is suggested that these be read in conjunction with the Annual Report presented to the Divisional Health Committee.

I must thank the Health Inspector and the Engineer and Surveyor for the contribution they have made to this report and the Clerk for the ready assistance he has given me at all times.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

L. RICH,

Medical Officer of Health

The figures in brackets are for the year 1965
to enable comparisons to be made

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Estimated Population ... 10,870 (10,570)

Births

Live Births—

		<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	178	(223)	91	(116)
Illegitimate	9	(10)	4	(8)

Still Births—

Legitimate	4	(2)	1	(—)	3	(2)
Illegitimate	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)

Live birth rate per 1000 estimated average population mid-1966

18.2 (23.3)

Live birth rate for England and Wales per 1000 of the population

17.7 (18.1)

Still birth rate per 1000 total (live and still) births

20.9 (8.5)

Still birth rate for England and Wales per 1000 total (live and still) births

15.4 (15.7)

Still birth rate per 1000 total population ...

.36 (.18)

Infantile Mortality

The total number of deaths is shown as follows :

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	3 (1)	2 (1)	1 (—)
Illegitimate	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)

Infantile mortality rate per 1000 live births ...

16.0 (4.2)

Infantile mortality rate for England and Wales

19.0 (19.0)

Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births

16.8 (4.4)

Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births

0 (0)

Deaths

Deaths (all ages) ... 138 (123) 71 (74) 67 (49)

Death rate per 1000 estimated average population

13.7 (12.5)

Death rate for England and Wales per 1000 of population

11.7 (11.5)

The following table shows the deaths from all causes within the district during the year.

CAUSE	Total	Male	Female
Tuberculosis, respiratory
Tuberculosis, other forms of
Syphilitic disease
Diphtheria
Whooping Cough
Meningococcal infection
Acute poliomyelitis
Measles
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	2	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	1	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	12	7	5
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	1	1
Diabetes	...	2	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	23	14	9
Coronary disease, angina	32	18	14
Hypertension with heart disease	...	—	—
Other heart disease	...	9	2
Other circulatory disease	...	5	2
Influenza	...	1	—
Pneumonia	...	1	1
Bronchitis	...	10	6
Other diseases of respiratory system	...	1	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	1	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	—	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	—	—
Congenital malformations	...	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	27	10	17
Motor vehicle accidents	...	5	3
All other accidents	...	2	1
Suicide	...	—	—
Homicide and operations of war	...	—	—
TOTAL	138	71	67

Deaths from Puerperal and Maternal causes :

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	(0)
Other Maternal causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	(0)
Maternity mortality rate per 1000 live and still births							0	(0)

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH FOR THE AREA

Care of Mothers and Young Children

Health Visitors :

Mrs. E. O. Rae

Ashfields Clinic, Platt Avenue, Sandbach

Telephone : Sandbach 2970

Mrs. H. Henderson

Ashfields Clinic, Platt Avenue, Sandbach

Telephone : Sandbach 2970

Once again there has been an increase in the attendances at the Infant Welfare Clinic. These figures do not include the attendances for immunisation as these are now carried out at separate sessions. This enables the Staff and the Doctor to devote more time to problems raised by the mothers in connection with the rearing of their children.

Once again I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the voluntary workers who render such valuable assistance at the Clinic. Their work is much appreciated by all concerned.

Statistics

	New cases			Total Attendances			No. of Clinics held	Cases seen by Doctor	Average per Clinic seen by Doctor	Av. attend'ce per Clinic
	0-1	1-2	2-5	0-1	1-2	2-5				
Sandbach	200	—	—	3673	722	893	102	335	6.5	51.8
Welfare Clinic	(232)	(—)	(—)	(3132)	(724)	(736)	(101)	(507)	(10.1)	(45.4)

Special Clinics for under 5

	New Cases	Total Attendances	No. of Clinics held	Average per clinic
Ophthalmic Clinic	20 (22)	170 (116)	30 (33)
E.N.T. Clinic	11 (15)	17 (19)	7 (9)

Special Clinics for School Children

	New Cases	Total Attendances	No. of Clinics held	Average per clinic
Ophthalmic Clinic	55 (58)	516 (532)	30 (30)	17.2 (17.7)
E.N.T. Clinic	16 (57)	36 (104)	7 (12)	7.1 (8.6)

Preparation Class

	New Cases	Total Attendances	No. of Clinics held	Average per clinic
Preparation Class	92 (84)	562 (607)	44 (50)	12.7 (12.1)

Welfare Foods Sold - 1966

Distribution Centre	National Full Cream	Dried Milk Half Cream	A. & D. Tablets	Cod Liver Oil	Orange Juice
Welfare Centre, Sandbach ...	1041 (988)	— (—)	254 (190)	139 (132)	2322 (1764)
Council Offices, Sandbach ...	293 (398)	22 (23)	49 (94)	68 (51)	162 (304)

Midwifery and Home Nursing

Midwifery and home nursing in the town is carried out by the following nurses:

Beatty, M. <i>(full time)</i>	5 Coronation Crescent, Sandbach	Sandbach 2731
Hoyle, I. (Mrs.) <i>(in conjunction with Home Nursing Duties)</i>	9 Offley Avenue, Sandbach	Sandbach 2852
Rhead, L. M. <i>(in conjunction with Home Nursing Duties)</i>	647 Crewe Road, Wheelock	Sandbach 2281
Wainwright, M. (Mrs.) <i>(in conjunction with Home Nursing Duties)</i>	87 Platt Avenue, Sandbach	Sandbach 2256

It is satisfactory to record that the work of our Home Nurses and Midwives has gone on at the same high standard and without a single complaint.

Once again numerous items of equipment have been loaned out in order to assist with the nursing of cases in their own homes.

These items consist of the following :

Air Beds	Commodes	Page Turner
Air Cushions	Crutches	Ripple Bed
Air Rings	Enuresis Blankets	Rubber Sheets
Back Rests	Feeding Cups	Sanichairs
Bath Rails	Hoist	Special Bed
Bath Seat	Extending Pick-up	Tap Turners
Bath Step	Half Step and Stick	Tripod Walking Stick
Beds	Handy Spring Pole	Urine Bottles
Bed Cages	Lift	Walking Aid
Bed Cradles	Mackintosh Sheets	Walking Sticks
Bed Pans	Mattresses	Wheel Chairs

We are constantly enlarging and improving our equipment and we are open to receive suggestions in all cases where special items of equipment are needed.

The Divisional Health Committee can in suitable cases carry out adaption and alterations to homes to assist physically handicapped persons to manage more easily.

These take the form of providing hand rails, toilet aids, ramps, the widening of doors and the provision of paths where special motor vehicles are provided.

Births

Once again it is satisfactory to report that with 291 births notified there have been no material deaths.

Meals on Wheels

1966 was the eighth year of the service and it enables the W.R.V.S. to keep a wonderful contact between themselves and the recipients.

The drivers and aides who work to a rota do many little kindnesses and give help when it is needed.

During the year 27 meals were delivered twice a week, two of these being a diabetic meal. A total of 2,808 meals were delivered during the year.

Club for Physically Handicapped Persons

The Club for Physically Handicapped Persons is run in two sections. The social side, which is organised by the W.R.V.S., meets fortnightly on Friday evenings at the Ashfields Clinic. The Handicraft section works in conjunction with the Leonard Cheshire Home where it meets weekly.

Vaccination and Immunisation

Completed Primary Courses - Persons under age 16 (South East Cheshire)

Type of Vaccine	Year of Birth					Others Under 16	At Clinics	Total By G.P.'s
	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962-59			
Quadruple	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Triple (D/WC/T) ...	435	626	69	28	45	12	594	621
Diph./Whooping C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diph./Tetanus ...	—	5	4	1	6	1	8	9
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Whooping Cough...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tetanus	—	—	—	—	5	6	1	10
Polio-Salk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-Sabin	339	728	119	58	172	69	712	773

Reinforcing Doses - Persons under age 16 (South East Cheshire)

Type of Vaccine	Year of Birth					Others Under 16	At Clinics	Total By G.P.'s
	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962-59			
Quadruple	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Triple (D/WC/T) ...	4	68	148	21	433	68	236	506
Diph./Whooping C.	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Diph./Tetanus ...	—	2	23	6	583	443	1013	44
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	3
Whooping Cough...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tetanus	—	—	—	2	5	10	1	16
Polio-Salk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-Sabin	2	70	128	33	841	546	1203	417

Smallpox Vaccination - Persons under age 16 (South East Cheshire)

	Year of Birth					Others under 16	At Clinics	By G.P.'s
	1966	1965	1964-62	1961-52	Total			
Vaccination	43	494	333	151	72	1093	459	634
Re-Vaccinated ...	—	—	1	65	28	94	3	91

Public Health Laboratory Service

We have continued to use the new laboratory at Chester and I should like to pay tribute to the services given and the help and advice we receive from the Pathologist in charge.

Domestic Help Service

Statistics relating to the Home Help Services provided in Sandbach during 1966 are as follows :

Home Helps employed during 1966

Full time	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Part time	...	...	...	...	...	29	(22)
						—	—
						29	(22)

Home Helps employed at 31st December 1966

Full time	...	...	...	...	...	—	(—)
Part time	...	...	...	...	...	16	(16)
						—	—
						16	(16)

Applications received during 1966

Aged and Infirm	...	...	...	...	...	25	(17)
Chronic Sick	...	...	...	...	...	—	(6)
Mentally Disordered	...	...	...	...	...	1	(—)
Maternity	...	...	...	...	...	8	(9)
Others	...	...	...	...	...	8	(—)
						—	—
						42	(32)
						—	—

Cases attended during 1966

Aged and Infirm	...	...	...	...	...	53	(37)
Chronic Sick	...	...	...	...	...	4	(10)
Mentally Disordered	...	...	...	...	...	1	(—)
Maternity	...	...	...	...	...	7	(10)
Others	...	...	...	...	...	8	(—)
						—	—
						73	(57)
						—	—

Cases receiving attention at 31st December 1966

Aged and Infirm	...	...	...	...	...	38	(28)
Chronic Sick	...	...	...	...	...	4	(4)
Mentally Disordered	...	...	...	...	...	—	(—)
Maternity	...	...	...	...	...	—	(—)
Others	...	...	...	...	...	1	(—)
						—	—
						43	(32)
						—	—

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

Sandbach is supplied with River Dee water, which is of moderate hardness, from the Hurleston Treatment Works. During the year a 21 inch trunk main from Sandbach to the new service reservoir at Smallwood was completed. Construction of the service reservoir itself continued and the first half was in fact brought into use in March 1967.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

During the year a tender was accepted for the sewerage and surface water scheme for the Middlewich Road/Park Lane area.

This scheme, in addition to the alleviation of the present sewerage and surface water difficulties in this locality, will provide drainage facilities for considerable development in the future.

Housing

During the whole of the year, work was proceeding on the construction of the Factory Lane Estate. At the end of the year, 18 houses had been completed and a further 42 houses were under construction. In addition to 74 Council Houses, this estate includes 20 police houses being constructed by the Cheshire Police Authority.

A start was made at the end of the year on the demolition of the 20 prefabricated houses at Bailey Crescent and the construction on the site of 35 dwellings, comprising 12 three bedroom houses, 11 two bedroom bungalows and 12 one bedroom bungalows.

During 1966, 126 dwellings were completed by private enterprise.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following table gives the number of cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year.

Notifiable Diseases
(other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1966

DISEASE	AGE DISTRIBUTION												Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45 & over			
Measles	4	13	22	13	16	64	2	—	—	—	—	134	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

Tuberculosis

For comparative purposes, I have recorded the notifications of Tuberculosis during 1966 in conjunction with the notifications of this disease received each year since 1957.

Notifications - 1957 to 1966

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966							
	P	NP															
MALE																	
Up to 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—							
1-4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—							
5-14	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—							
15-24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—							
25-34	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—							
35-44	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—							
45-54	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—							
55-64	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—							
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—							
FEMALE																	
Up to 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—							
1-4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—							
5-14	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—							
15-24	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—							
25-34	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—							
35-44	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—							
45-54	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—							
55-64	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—							
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—							
TOTAL	5	1	2	-	2	-	-	1	2	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-

Deaths - 1957 to 1966

	1957		1958		1959		1960		1961		1962		1963		1964		1965		1966	
	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP
MALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1- 4																				
5-14																				
15-24																				
25-34																				
35-44																				
45-54																				
55-64			1															1		
65 and over													1					1		
FEMALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1- 4																				
5-14																				
15-24																				
25-34																				
35-44																				
45-54																				
55-64																				
65 and over																				
TOTALS	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-

Cases on Register at 31st December, 1966

	Up to 1 yr.	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 & over	Total	
Male Pulmonary	—	—	—	1	1	3	4	—	9
Female Pulmonary	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	—	6
Male Non-Pulmonary	...	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	1	5
Female Non-Pulmonary	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	1	5

The following sections of this report have been compiled by the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. N. A. Rogers.

Public Health Inspection

Number of Inspections and Visits during 1966	...	...	3445
Number of Informal Notices served during 1966	...	...	78
Number of Informal Notices complied with during 1966	...	...	69
Number of Informal Notices outstanding at 31/12/66	...	...	20
Number of Statutory Notices served during 1966	...	...	0
Number of Statutory Notices complied with during 1966	...	...	0

The volume of complaints received by the Health Department has increased substantially over the last year or two. Complaining appears nowadays to have become a hobby with some people and so often it is based on an uncharitable attitude. The most time-consuming and frustrating cases are those where, even on insignificant issues, the complainants will not accept decisions which are contrary to their own opinions, and they then attempt to further their cases by seeking the support of Members of Parliament, Government Departments, etc.

The fact that no statutory notices were served and no court proceedings instituted during the year has no special significance ; but it is, nevertheless, pleasing to be able to report that such measures did not become necessary.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection

Refuse collection has been carried out during the past year by a 50 cubic yard compression-type vehicle (purchased July 1964) with a 16/18 cubic yard fore-and-aft tipper (purchased March 1961) kept in reserve and used only occasionally. The larger vehicle performed splendidly while it was operating, but when purchasing future vehicles the Council may consider it a wise policy to pay more attention to the question of after-sales service.

With the need to provide an improved service, and having in mind the house-building activity in the area and the current trend for each household to have more than one bin, it will be necessary to make more use of the second collection vehicle and a fresh programme will be put into operation in the near future. However,

in this area of full employment it is still very difficult to obtain labour for work such as this and it is never possible from week to week to guarantee the implementation of any particular programme.

Refuse Disposal

Since the middle of the year almost all collected refuse has been tipped on farmland at the request of the owner for levelling purposes. With the assistance of the Council's earth-moving machine "controlled tipping" has been carried out and the result has given considerable satisfaction to all concerned.

Meanwhile the Council's own land at Malkins Bank has comparatively little tipping space left and it will be necessary within the next year to determine future arrangements.

Supply of Dustbins

The Council does not operate a Dustbin Scheme under Section 75(3) of the Public Health Act 1936, but a supply of dustbins is kept for sale on request. 157 properties were supplied in this way.

Conservancy

The scheme whereby arrangements were made with Congleton Rural District Council for the emptying of pail closets in this area has continued throughout the year and has worked very satisfactorily. Eleven houses are thus served and three pails from other types of premises are also emptied. In addition, it is found very convenient to make use of this service in connection with the caravans attached to the Amusement Fairs which visit Sandbach Commons several times a year.

Public Conveniences

Public Conveniences, more than any other buildings, appear to be targets for acts of vandalism and abuse. It can be said that every attempt is made to keep the Sandbach Conveniences fit for public use, and, despite the troubles which are continually arising, worse examples can be seen in many other towns.

With the considerable influx of visitors to the weekly Market on Thursdays, the existing central Public Conveniences are proving inadequate and the Council will have to consider in what way they can be supplemented.

HOUSING

Unfit Houses

(a) Individual Houses

Number of Demolition Orders made	...	...	...	...	...	6
Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of houses demolished as a result of informal action	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of unfit houses closed under Section 17(1) Housing Act 1957	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of houses closed in pursuance of undertakings given by owners	...	...	...	...	...	—

(b) Clearance Areas

Number of Areas declared during the year	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of dwellings in declared area	...	...	...	...	...	32
Number of Orders made during the year	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	—

(c) Rehousing from Unfit Houses

Number of families rehoused	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of persons rehoused	...	...	...	...	...	2

With the resumption of Council house building it became possible to recommence action in respect of unfit houses. In July the Council declared the Chapel Street (No. 1) Clearance Area involving 32 dwellinghouses, but discussions concerning a new by-pass road in this neighbourhood caused the making of the Clearance Order to be deferred. The Chapel Street area, by reason of its location and the poor type of property involved, very obviously requires redevelopment and it is to be hoped the Council will keep this matter alive. In September individual Demolition Orders were made on a group of six houses in Middlewich Road and a start was made on rehousing the occupiers.

Repairs

Number of unfit houses in which defects were remedied by owners as a result of informal action	...	...	...	...	...	5
Number of unfit houses in which defects were remedied as a result of formal action	...	...	...	...	...	—

Certificates of Disrepair

There was no action whatsoever during 1966 concerning Certificates of Disrepair.

Standard Grants		<i>Owner-Occupier</i>	<i>Tenanted</i>
Number of applications received	...	9	3
Number of applications approved	...	9	3
Number of applications refused	...	—	—
Number of dwellings improved	...	16	3
Amount paid in grants	...	£1793/11/2	
Average grant per house	...	£94/8/0	
Amenities provided			
(a) fixed bath	...	...	14
(b) shower	...	...	—
(c) wash hand basin	...	...	14
(d) hot water supply (to any fittings)	...	...	15
(e) water closet (1) within dwelling	...	...	19
	(2) accessible from dwelling	...	—
(f) food store	...	...	12

Discretionary Grants		<i>Owner-Occupier</i>	<i>Tenanted</i>
Number of applications received	1
Number of applications approved	1
Number of applications refused	—
Number of dwellings improved	1
Amount paid in grants	£95

The total number of Improvement Grants approved since the Scheme began is 222.

Housing Act 1964

No Improvement Areas have yet been established; but where Grants have been made to one or more houses forming part of a terrace or group, the owners of the houses have been informally approached with a view to securing improvement throughout the group.

The Council have not indicated any wish to invoke compulsory action on improvements, and there have not been any representations by tenants for the implementation of the Council's powers under Section 19 of the Act.

Rehousing

The following is a statement of the latest position with regard to the Register of Applicants for tenancies of Council houses and flats :

Applicants on Waiting List for less than 1 year	...	...	117
Applicants on Waiting List between 1 and 2 years	...	...	19
Applicants on Waiting List between 2 and 3 years	...	...	11
Applicants on Waiting List over 3 years	...	...	3
 Total number of "live" applicants on current register	...	150	 —

The number of applicants on the waiting list represents an increase over previous years. This is not thought to be significant and, in fact, it is suggested that quite a number of applications are made without serious intention. The allocating of tenancies is no longer as simple as it once was. The "choosiness" of many of the prospective tenants detracts from what used to be a very enjoyable task : it is also an indication that applications based on serious need are now very much fewer.

22 applicants from the waiting list were rehoused during 1966, together with 13 families from "condemned" prefabricated bungalows. In addition, there were 108 applicants on the Bungalow waiting list, 2 cases having been accommodated during the year.

Moveable Dwellings

There is only one site in the Urban District which is currently licensed : this is a site for 25 residential caravans. During the year the ownership of the site changed and the licence was consequently transferred, but the new owners are maintaining the same high standard of vans and facilities.

The Report for 1965 mentioned an inferior type of caravan with hardly any sanitary facilities parked on land of which the ownership could not be established. Prosecution under the Public Health Act resulted in a Nuisance Order being made, and at two subsequent Court hearings nominal fines were imposed. The sympathy directed towards the offender in the local press, in Court and in other official circles lessened the desire to pursue this case to finality ; and it is regretfully reported that the nuisance remains unabated.

FOOD

Slaughtering and Meat Inspection

The one licensed Slaughterhouse in the Urban District has been continued in use throughout the year. In general the business has been well conducted and the owner has been co-operative on any points raised.

Very little of the meat produced at this slaughterhouse went for consumption locally. The substantial increase in the amount of slaughtering resulted from contracts on behalf of Manchester butchers, together with a much bigger "casualty" trade. It is this latter factor which has given rise to the high condemnation figures.

The Meat Inspection (Amendment) Regulations 1966, authorised Local Authorities to regulate the hours of slaughtering within their areas. This Council, after considering all the circumstances, and with the agreement of the Meat Inspectors, decided for the time being not to impose any restriction on times of slaughter but to reconsider the matter in a further twelve months.

Meat Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Animals slaughtered and Inspected	232	607	173	7369	849	9230
(There were no horses slaughtered in the Urban District during 1966)						

CONDEMNATIONS

All diseases except Tuberculosis:

Whole carcases condemned	2	54	3	1	20	80
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	57	471	3	1193	86	1810
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	25%	86%	3%	16%	12%	20%

Tuberculosis only:

Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	4	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	.47%	.04%

5 cases (0.6%) of localised *Cysticercus Bovis* were detected during the year

Analysis in lb. of Condemned Meat

	<i>Beef</i>	<i>Veal</i>	<i>Mutton</i>	<i>Pork</i>
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	62
Parasites and Cysts	4540	1	1799	24
Angioma	1296	—	—	—
Dropsy	18353	—	—	260
Emaciation	—	—	42	346
Pleurisy and Pneumonia...	176	—	—	102
Immaturity	—	44	—	26
Actinomycosis	172	—	—	—
Septicaemia	4190	84	—	282
Pyaemia	—	141	—	—
Gangrene	284	—	—	—
Pericarditis	12	—	—	—
Arthritis	42	—	—	—
Jaundice	—	—	—	64
Abscesses	1245	—	7	914
Miscellaneous and Injury	6073	14	—	452
	36383	284	1848	2532

It is interesting to observe the trend in the comparative amounts of beef condemned in the last four years :

Average amount condemned per Beast Slaughtered

	<i>All Diseases</i>	<i>Tuberculosis only</i>
1963 ...	33 lb	0.04 lb
1964 ...	41 lb	0.007 lb
1965 ...	22 lb	—
1966 ...	43 lb	—

Slaughter of Animals Act 1958

5 applications for licences to slaughter animals were granted.

Food Hygiene

Routine inspections of food premises were carried out throughout the year with a view to maintaining a good standard of hygiene. The co-operation of the occupiers was readily secured in most cases and it did not become necessary to take statutory action in any instance.

The number of Food Premises (in broad categories) in the Urban District is as follows :

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	5
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	9
Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	4
Clubs	...	...	...	...	...	7
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	12
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fried Fish	...	...	...	...	...	10
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	7
Grocers and General	...	...	...	...	...	46
Public Houses, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	25
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	1
School Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	6
Works Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	10

All premises, where appropriate, are fitted to comply with Regulations 16 and 19 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960.

In addition, 48 stalls in the Council's weekly market are hired for the sale of a variety of foods. The Council do not permit the sale of unwrapped food (except fruit and vegetables) from stalls in the open air. The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966, which came into operation on the 1st January 1967, impose further restrictions in this respect and will probably entail some re-organisation of the Market layout.

Unsound Food

The following unsound foods were condemned upon voluntary surrender at shop premises :

Raw Meat	...	...	...	...	50	lb
Canned Meats	...	...	...	...	1405	lb
Canned Fish	...	...	...	...	58 $\frac{1}{4}$	lb
Canned Fruit and Vegetables	...				1247 $\frac{1}{2}$	lb
* Other Foods	...	...	...	...	135 $\frac{1}{2}$	lb
						2896 $\frac{1}{4}$

Only one instance of the sale of unsound food came to notice in 1966. This concerned a meat pie, produced locally, which was found to contain a fly. After full investigation of the circumstances and following a report on the high standard of hygiene at the bakehouse, the Council decided not to pursue the matter beyond the issue of a written warning.

Milk

Dealer's Licences are issued by the County Council. There are two dairy herds in this district from which milk is sold raw to the public.

The County Health Department have supplied the following statistics covering samples of raw milk taken to ascertain the presence of *Brucella Abortus*.

	Total Submitted	Number <i>Brucella</i> Positive
Bulk Samples	9	—
Dealer Samples	13	1
Individual Cow Samples	51	1
	—	—
	73	2
	—	—

Section 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959, was invoked in respect of milk from a local herd following a culture-positive dealer sample. Following detection of the offending cow and its removal from the farm, the Section 20 Order was rescinded.

Ice Cream

51 premises are registered by the Local Authority for the sale of Ice Cream. Only wrapped ice cream was sold from these premises and no ice cream is known to have been manufactured in the district during the year.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the Urban District.

Poultry Processing Establishments

There are no poultry processing establishments in the Urban District.

Other Registered Premises

14 premises are registered by the Local Authority under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, for the preparation of cooked meats, etc. and 10 premises are registered for fish frying.

MISCELLANEOUS

Rodent Control

A trained Rodent Operator, working under the supervision of the Public Health Inspectors, spends approximately 18 hours per week on these duties.

The following treatments were carried out during the year :

Business Premises	...	...	...	79
Agricultural Properties	...	...	...	19
Dwelling Houses	...	...	...	89
Local Authority Undertakings	...			3
				190

By means of annual contracts the Council deals with 19 commercial and 5 agricultural properties, and this system gives satisfactory results to all concerned.

The sewers throughout the district are annually tested and treated for rat infestation.

An alleged rat infestation in the town centre became, through the persistence of the complainant, the subject of a Ministerial report. This followed many weeks of investigation, testing, and consultation with Ministry officials. Throughout this period no evidence of recent infestation was found in the area from which the complaint originated. No effort was spared in an endeavour to detect the presence of vermin and it is frustrating to feel that all this time and effort could have been used to much better purpose.

Atmospheric Pollution

Atmospheric pollution is not a major problem in the Urban District. Instances still occur occasionally where industrial chimneys exceed the permitted discharge of smoke, but informal action invariably secures a remedy. It is a fact that the installation of oil-firing has eliminated smoke nuisances from a number of local industries which formerly gave trouble in this respect.

The Council have not yet taken any steps towards the establishment of Smoke Control Areas.

Noise Abatement

Noise has now become one of the most common causes of complaint to the Health Department and it is undoubtedly one of the most difficult on which to pass judgment. There are highly technical aspects concerned with the production of noise, and, while it is possible to register noise recordings by the use of technical

apparatus, the ear of a normal, impartial person is probably the best judge of the extent of nuisance. Unfortunately, those individuals more sensitive to noise are not usually inclined to accept a verdict on this basis.

One of the most frustrating aspects is the tendency to allow residential development in the vicinity of established industry ; and, if the industry is a heavy-engineering concern working 24 hours a day, problems are bound to arise.

At some time during the year most of the industrial works in the area have been the subject of complaints in respect of noise, and it must be said that in every case the firms concerned have taken reasonable measures to eliminate or reduce the alleged nuisances.

Other Public Nuisances

Many residents in the Urban District were affected by a serious offensive smell nuisance which emanated from a private industrial waste tip in the adjoining Rural District. The Rural District Council took proceedings in the Magistrates' Court and a Nuisance Order was eventually made in September 1966, but this had had no effect by the end of the year in the abatement of the nuisance. Meantime, the same Council, realising the extent of the nuisance and feeling that local proceedings were unlikely to secure a remedy, applied to the High Court for an injunction against the tip-owner and the hearing of this case is awaited.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving general insp. during year
Offices	2	36	13
Retail Shops	4	55	19
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	—	1	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	1	11	1
Fuel storage depots	—	—	—
TOTALS	7	103	34

Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises under the Act 91

Analysis of Contraventions

<i>Contraventions found</i>								<i>Number</i>
Section 4	—	Cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	4
Section 5	—	Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	—
Section 6	—	Temperature	...	...	...	...	...	20
Section 7	—	Ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	—
Section 8	—	Lighting	...	...	...	...	...	9
Section 9	—	Sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	7
Section 10	—	Washing facilities	...	...	...	...	...	19
Section 11	—	Supply of drinking water	...	...	...	...	...	2
Section 12	—	Clothing accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	1
Section 13	—	Sitting facilities	...	...	...	...	...	1
Section 14	—	Seats (sedentary workers)	...	...	...	...	...	—
Section 15	—	Eating facilities	...	...	...	...	...	4
Section 16	—	Floors, passage and stairs	...	...	...	...	...	8
Section 17	—	Fencing exposed parts machinery	...	...	...	...	...	—
Section 18	—	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	...	...	...	...	...	—
Section 19	—	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	...	...	...	...	...	—
Section 23	—	Prohibition of heavy work	...	...	...	...	...	—
Section 24	—	First Aid general provisions	...	...	...	...	...	20
TOTAL								95

Exemptions

No applications were received for exemption from the provisions of the Act.

Accidents

There were no reported accidents during 1966.

Factories

Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health

<i>Premises</i>	No. on Register	Inspec-tions	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	14	3	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority ...	68	21	—	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	11	12	—	—
TOTAL	93	36	—	—

Outworkers — Nil

EACHUS & SON
Printers and Stationers
SANDBACH : CHESHIRE